TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In The Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

Appomattox, Virginia

ESTABLISHED 1892

Calvin H. Robinson — Editor and Publisher

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WITH OTHER EDITORS

AT THE YEAR'S END

(From The New York Times)

(Sunday, Dec. 31, 1950)

Tonight, at midnight the fateful days of 1950 will have drawn to a close. It has been a year of great and significant events, of tensions and anxieties, of modest achievements and massive problems, and above all, of hurting and changing minds. The real story of 1950 can be told in the ebb and flow of emotional tides in the long road from one climate to another. From that story can be learned, perhaps, some useful lessons for 1951.

The first half of the year was marked, in general, by a feeling of grounded optimism both in the United States and in Europe. Persons in very high places gave assurance that a real basis for peace could be found and that the chances of finding it were good. The North Atlantic community was drawing closer together and there was a sense of at least some degree of security. In the United States the armed forces had been technically unified and there was the assumption that they were also being streamlined and put into a much stronger position at the same time that some costs were being cut.

That optimism may seem now to have been woefully shortsighted but it provided the background against which many decisions were made. There was apprehension in some quarters over our whole Far Eastern policy and some degree of criticism because it was regarded as too weak. Against that was set the satisfaction, in other quarters, that we were at least staying out of trouble.

At the end of June this relative complacency was shattered by the invasion of the Republic of Korea. It was obvious, at once, that the hopes for staying out of trouble were doomed. Nevertheless, when the decision to take immediate action was announced there was a great wave of support and enthusiasm both in the United States and abroad. It was felt that the prompt judgments of the United Nations had restored no little prestige to that body and that the judgments had been morally right even if they were physically risky.

This upsurge of satisfaction was followed by a period of great frustration. The United Nations forces in Korea were steadily driven backward. At the same time it became apparent that the general estimate of military strength in the United States had not been accurate and that far greater efforts and far larger expenditures would be necessary. During the same time there was the spectacle of complete frustration in the Security Council of the United Nations, where the Soviet representative succeeded in keeping that body paralyzed throughout the month of August.

These frustrations, however, brought about a strong reaction. The stalemate in the United Nations eventually brought about a far higher degree of unity among the non-Communist members than had previously been thought possible. Not only was the defense of Korea approved by fifty-three of them but the Assembly also adopted a plan whereby it could, in the future go into action if the Council was made inoperative.

This big swing in sentiment was capped by the feeling of great enthusiasm in the whole free world when a daring military stroke, the Inchon landing, changed the picture in Korea. It soon became evident that the North Korean Communists had been thoroughly defeated and it was hoped and even assumed that peace was shortly to be made. The sympathies and attention of the nations turned to problems of help and rebuilding.

Then came the Chinese Communist intervention in Korea, and it was realized that the problem posed was graver than had been supposed. Once again a mood of doubt and fear and some irresolution became apparent. There were strong expressions of widely differing opinion in the United States. Some of these differences were interpreted in Europe in an atmosphere of the most profound anxiety. In the United Nations there was hesitation and the search, at times almost frantic, for some sort of peace formula. At the year's end this mood has not yet been dissipated, and the United Nations is fearful at the same time that its forces face the threat of a massive assault in Korea.

These pendulum swings with the events of the year suggest the wisdom, at this time, of calmness and resolution. There have been no easy solutions, and it is futile to hope for a quick and royal road to peace. At the same time it has been possible to meet the challenge to human ability and dignity, and it would be craven to believe that this possibility has ended. This may not be a "happy" New Year, but it can be a good and honorable and brave one.

WHY RETIRE AT ALL?

(Pueblo, Calif., Chieftan)

Think of what the world would have missed had a retirement age been established 100 years ago, even at 70, been universally enforced? Gladstone was prime minister of England at the age of 83; Benjamin Franklin helped frame the United States Constitution at 80; Oliver Wendell Holmes retired from the United States Supreme Court bench at 91; Henry Ford, when past 80, took up the duties of the presidency of the Ford Motor Company for the second time after his son's death, and Amos Alonzo Stagg was named the nation's "football man of the year" at 81.

Dr. Lillian J. Martin learned to drive an automobile when she was 76 years old, and at the same time founded an old age center in San Francisco, where she received aged people not as patients but as students. She continued to direct the work of the center until her death at 91.

After the late Dr. Milton J. Rosenau had to retire from Harvard Medical School at 67, he went to the University of North Carolina and built one of the greatest schools of public health in America.

Who said that life begins at 40

COLLEGIATE FUTURE

(The Boston Post)

It is obvious from the comments of educators and college students that one of the first important tasks Congress must tackle when it resumes is writing a new draft law. The problem must be faced with courage and common sense and it must consider the best interest of the individual as well as the needs of the nation.

So far as the undergraduates in college are concerned it would seem wise to have them finish their four years but, if necessary, modify their courses—under armed services auspices—to embrace one or more technical courses of direct value to the services. It might be best to force all undergradutes into ROTC units and it would be better done now than later.

BUMPER CROPS NEEDED

(Winchester Star)

Nature was good to the American people in 1950. The nation's harvest was the third largest in history; the result of a favorable season. Only a month ago the Department of Agriculture had forecast that the 1950 harvest would be no better than fourth largest. Good weather put it next to the harvests of 1948 and 1949.

The United States is in good position to meet the future—save for one notable exception. Cotton is in short supply because of a bad season and insect damage. Output fell below the government-set goal. But most crops were big enough to meet the domestic and export needs and provide reserves as well.

So the nation has been fortunate. How fortunate can be judged by recalling what happened after the partial failure of the corn crop in 1947. The inflationar ypush given the economy by the corn shortage did great damage to food price levels in 1948. If there had been similar failure this year, meat would be out of sight, other food costs would be higher than they are, and demands for wage increases would be explosive, not merely insistent.

In times like these it is imperative that adequate supplies of food and fiber be produced. This explains why the government's targets for 1951 call for the largest output in history—at least 10 per cent above that of 1950.

Will the farmers produce the crops sought? The record of the last decade, war years and cold war years alike, says they will. They will get high prices, just as others with goods and services to sell will get high prices. But they can be trusted with this job. Nature could defeat their best efforts, but with reasonable cooperation from her the farmers will make things grow.

Letters

Pamplin, Va.

Dear Editor,

I do enjoy the paper very much. I like more news about more people. Tell them to send you the news. You gotta have it. There are people who want to know about it. I would like to see everyone mentioned in the paper. With no accidents. Fill up that whole middle section with "who went where" Now that would be nice.

Pamplin Subscriber.

Tangent, Oregon

Editor, Times-Virginian,

I have ordered to be mailed to you a copy of the Portland Oregonian centennial issue and a copy of the Albany, Oregon Democrat-Herald 91st anniversary and Progress issue. Also, I am mailing you a stock of newspapers collected on our trip back west. I hope you will enjoy them.

We had a grand trip through the Smoky Mountains, Chattanooga and Memphis, Tenn.; across Arkansas, Oklahoma, West Texas (Amarillo), to the Petrified Forest, Grand Canyon and Painted Desert in Arizona, to Hoover Dam, Las Vegas and Reno, Nevada, across Northeastern California and then Oregon. One has to see all of this country to appreciate how different it is in different parts and how beautiful and interesting each part is. "One out of many" is a good motto for our country. One also has to travel to realize "there's no place like home." I do hope you two can take a trip out here some day. One can drive it easily in a week, but the more time you have the more you will see, naturally.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

(Mrs.) Virginia Koos

(Editor's note: We received all the papers, read them every one, and appreciate the thoughtfulness of Mrs. Koos—a former Appomattox girl.)

Chinese Reds open big push for Seoul.

U. S. may end the official state of war with Germany.

Gen. Marshall is opposed to hasty mobilization.

GEN. MARSHALL AND THE FACTS

(From New York World Telegram and Sun)

Gen. George Marshall in a recent speech gave some interesting figures that we doubt will be found in high school history courses. The General said:

"In our democracy where the government is truly an agent of the popular will, military organization for war will be good or bad as the public is well informed or poorly informed regarding the factors that bear on the subject. . . . Popular knowledge of history, I believe, is largely based on information derived from school textbooks, and unfortunately these sources often tell only a portion of the truth with regard to our war experiences. . . .

"Few Americans learn that we enrolled nearly 400,000 men in the Revolutionary War to defeat an enemy that numbered less than 45,000, or that we employed half a million in 1812 against an opponent whose strength ne er exceeded 16,000 at any one place, and fewer still have learned why these overwhelming numbers were so ineffective. . . .

"Personally I am convinced that the colossal wastefulness of our war a month ago the Department of Agriculture had forecast that the 1950 harvest would be no better than fourth largest. Good weather put it next to the harvests of 1948 and 1949.

"When the high school student knows exactly what happened, and most important of all, why it happened, then our most serious military problem will be solved."

If such facts are withheld from us, no wonder we grow up with the impression that the United States can lick anybody with one hand and never can be defeated.

Jesus' New Year

Lesson for January 7, 1951

SCRIPTURE: Mark 1:1-28; DEVOTIONAL READING: Isaiah 42: 1-9

THERE is no room in this one column for a commentary on the whole Sunday school lesson each week. If the reader is interested, as it is hoped he will be, he will first study the Bible passages themselves, with whatever aids his own denomination furnishes him. The Sunday school teacher or Bible student who wishes to do really thorough work will need a Bible Dictionary and at least a one-volume commentary on the entire Bible. (Dummelow's [Macmillan Co.] and the Abingdon Commentary [Abingdon Press] are among the best of these.) As a background for the studies of the next three months, the student should read one or more good "Lives" of Christ. Write to your own church bookstore for suggestions.

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When Is New Year's Day?

EVERY day is a New Year's Day for somebody. The legal holiday that goes by that name seldom comes at a real turning-point in anyone's life.

The real occasion is when some momentous change occurs, so that after that day life never flows in its old channels. In this sense, a very important New Year's Day for Jesus was the day when he was baptized in the Jordan river.

Before that day he lived as a carpenter in one village; after that day, as a public man, indeed THE public Man of all times. The pattern of his life completely changed.

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Decisions

NEW YEAR'S is a good time to review three things: your decisions, your life's work, and your friendships.

Have you put off a decision for a long time? Now is the time to face it. Have you been making "unfortunate" decisions, choices you regret? Now is a good time to look into these and see why you have been taking the wrong road too often. Have you any bed-rock principle on which you base all your decisions? — Jesus' New Year was marked by certain decisions made once and for all.

To begin with, there was his baptism. One thing it surely meant: Jesus that day decided deliberately to be counted among those who need repentance rather than among those who think they don't. Not everybody came down to the Jordan to be baptized. Some came only to criticize. Jesus sided with the sinners, not the critics. It was a life-long decision. He became known as the "Friend of sinners."

There were also the further decisions in the wild country where he went through his temptations. Each temptation faced Jesus with a choice; each time his choice was on God's side.

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Life's Work

THERE is a great thrill in setting out on the work one is going to do for the rest of one's natural life. Out of the harbor traffic out to the open sea! Jesus now becomes a preacher, and this was his work for the rest of his life. His carpentry has long since mouldered to dust; his preaching and teaching are immortal.

But suppose Jesus had been a slipshod, inefficient, careless carpenter? Would he have ever become a great teacher and preacher? It is quite true, the products of his shop have vanished, but there was something taking shape in that shop which did not vanish: his character.

Your choice about your future and final life's work may still be in the future; your best work may not yet have been begun. But the way you do what you have to do, today, will help set the pattern for every choice and every work in your life.

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Friendships

NEXT after Jesus' life-work came his choice of friends. No doubt he had known Simon and the others before, and Mark simply records in his abrupt way the climax of a long story, in telling how Jesus "called" them.

We cannot imagine Jesus without his disciples. It is not exaggeration to say that even the Son of God would have been a failure, as a man, had he won no friends. There would have been no Christian religion if Jesus had had no friends.

Around New Year's time it is well to ask oneself the question: Am I as careful in selecting my friends as Jesus was in selecting his?

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Oakville

Oakville, Jan. 3.- Mr. and Mrs. C. Roland Smith, Watt and Daphnia, and Mr. and Mrs. Terry Rogers and Linda spent last week-end in Richmond.

Mr. and Mrs. Terry Rogers and Linda, Mr. Holmes Martin and Mr. and Mrs. Willie Mayberry and son spent New Year's day with Mr. and Mrs. C. Roland Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Riley Megginson and family spent one day last week with Mr. and Mrs. Sam Megginson.

Those visiting Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Martin last Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Keith Martin, Mr. and Mrs. James Martin and family and Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Whitten and family.

Cpl. Ira B. Phelps, Jr., of Bremenhaven, Germany spent thirty days at the home of his parents recently.

Mrs. T. L. Page, of Farmville spent several days last week with relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Wooten and daughter, of Petersburg visited Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Bass last week-end.

C. F. Linamen, of Ashland visited his family here this week.

During the holidays Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Reynolds and Janice, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wilkerson and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wilkerson visited Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Wilkerson.

Mrs. C. E. Wilkerson visited her mother, Mrs. Bingham last week-end.

Mrs. B. C. Rogers and family visited relatives in Lynchburg during the holidays.

Oakville, Jan. 2.- Mr. and Mrs. Alton Moore, of Oakville, announce the birth of a daughter, born December 16, at Lynchburg General Hospital.

Richwood

Richwood, Jan. 2.- "I do the very best I know how; the very best I can; and I mean to keep doing so until the end. If the end brings me out all right, what is said against me won't amount to anything."

—Quote-I.

Services at the Central Baptist Church at 11 A. M. Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Pugh and Mrs. Henry Fleshman were in Lynchburg visiting with relatives on Sunday.

Mrs. T. T. Wooldridge and daughter, Marvis were the guests Tuesday of Miss Estelle Wooldridge and family.

J. L. Pankey, of Washington, was the week-end guest of his mother.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Pugh and Mrs. Henry Fleshman were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Blazer Saturday evening.

Mrs. Henry Fleshman and Mrs. G. P. Brannan and daughter, Val, visited with Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Wooldridge and daughter, Marvis, Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Fleshman and son were the dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Blackwell and family Sunday.

Mr. J. C. Holland and G. I. Watt, of Takoma Park, Md., were the week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Mondies and other friends.

Miss Estelle Wooldridge and George Wooldridge and Franklin D. Cawthorne visited with Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Wooldridge and daughter, Marvis on Wednesday evening.

Mrs. Lawrence Hudson was taken to a Lynchburg Hospital Monday for a major operation.

Spout Spring

Spout Spring, Jan. 2.- Guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Layne Christmas day were Mr. and Mrs. William Layne, Mr. and Mrs. Meredith Griffin and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd McFadden and son.

Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Cyrus spent last week in Albany, Ga., as guests of their son and daughter-in-law.

Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Brooks and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Cyrus and daughters were recent guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Almond.

Mr. and Mrs. George Carson visited her mother Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Reynolds and son; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Carson and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Reynolds were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Reynolds last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Moon and son visited his parents last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Covington and sons, of Ashland visited her parents during the Christmas holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Almond spent Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Wilkerson.

Mrs. W. J. Walton and son and daughter visited Mrs. George Carson Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. W. A. Moon, who has been confined to her bed for several days with flu, is out again.

Stonewall

Stonewall, Jan. 2.- We wish our Editor and "his better half" a Happy New Year and the same to all the readers of the Times-Virginian.

We have lots of sickness around here. We hope the New Year will bring better health to everyone.

Mrs. Anna Lee spent last week with her sister, Mrs. Lee Wheeler, who is on the sick list. We wish for this fine Christian lady a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. N. W. Carson, of Philadelphia; Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Carson, of Roanoke; Mr. and Mrs. Ken Smith and Miss Anne Carson, of Lynchburg spent the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Carson.

Mrs. Howlette Drinkard visited her sister, Mrs. Herman Moore, Jr. and baby girl in Richmond last Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Irby Wheeler had all their children and his brothers with them for the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Carson had all her home folks for dinner last Sunday: Mr. and Mrs. Davis Smith and son, David, Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Davidson and family and Jessie Davidson.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Thomas and family spent part of Christmas in Richmond with their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Vinson Russell and children.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Cyrus spent last Sunday in Chase City with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Chick attended a surprise birthday party for her sister, Mrs. Frank Drinkard on last Sunday evening at the home of her brother, Clayton Drinkard, given by Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Drinkard.

Mrs. J. H. Beard has returned home from the hospital much improved. She had all of her children home for Christmas.

Mrs. Henry Beard and son, Lawrence and Mr. and Mrs. Lester Carson called to see Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Chick last Sunday. Henry Beard is on the sick list. We wish him a speedy get well.

Mr. and Mrs. Howlette Drinkard and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Thomas T. Martin at Appomattox.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Bondurant had all her folks for a dinner during the holidays, and some of the neighbors enjoyed the fine day with this splendid family.

Mrs. Melvin Drinkard and children, of Oakville visited Mr. and Mrs. Howlette Drinkard on New Year's day.

Liberty Chapel

Liberty Chapel, Jan. 2.- Mr. and Mrs. Paul Thornhill and daughters visited Mr. and Mrs. Don Owen, of Randolph Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Reynolds moved recently into their new home. Those visiting them Sunday were Mrs. Florence Phelps, Miss Colelle Phelps, Miss Avis Holt and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Scruggs.

Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Harvey, Jr., Gloria Ann Lewis and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Thornhill and daughters were supper guests last Thursday of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Garrett.

Supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Gunter Friday were Mr. and Mrs. Percy Garrett, Mr. and Mrs. Preston Coleman, Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Harvey, Jr. and Gloria Ann Lewis.

A house-warming was given Friday night in honor of Mr. and Mrs. John Crofton.

Mr. and Mrs. Percy Garrett were supper guests Saturday night of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Thornhill.

Bob Martin and family visited his family, Mr. and Mrs. E. K. Martin Sunday.

British group of nations to map plans for global defense.

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U. S. Treasury Department

Constitutional rights are restored in Venezuela.

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